

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STOCKH 01215 210903Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05
OES-06 OMB-01 SS-15 H-02 AGRE-00 HEW-06 L-03
AID-05 /093 W
-----210906Z 021215 /15

P R 210828Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0088
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL GOTEBOG BY POUCH

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1215

COPENHAGEN FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, SW
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON DECRIMINALIZING MARIHUANA

REF: STATE 57902

1. MARIHUANA IS RARELY ENCOUNTERED IN SWEDEN. HASHISH IS MOST COMMON FORM OF CANNABIS ABUSE. PERSONS FOUND TO BE IN POSSESSION OF SMALL AMOUNT OF HASHISH FOR PERSONAL USE GENERALLY RECEIVE WARNING ON FIRST OCCASION AND NAMES ARE RECORDED. FINES ARE IMPOSED FOR SECOND OR THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS. COUNTY PROSECUTORS HAVE FULL DISCRETION IN DETERMINING WHAT CONSTITUTES SMALL AMOUNT. HOWEVER, 15 GRAMS (30 GRAMS OF MARIHUANA) HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AS UPPER LIMIT IN STOCKHOLM COUNTY AND THIS DEFINITION IS GRADUALLY BECOMING ACCEPTED IN REST OF SWEDEN.

2. PENALTY FOR TRAFFICKING IN HASHISH IS USUALLY LIGHT PRISON SENTENCE OF UP TO ONE YEAR, BUT LONGER TERMS ARE POSSIBLE
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DEPENDING ON SERIOUSNESS OF OFFENCE. WE QUOTE FROM THE LAW: "IN DETERMINING THE GRAVITY OF AN OFFENCE, SPECIAL REGARD SHALL BE HAD TO WHETHER IT WAS PART OF A LARGE-SCALE OR PROFESSIONAL COURSE OF ACTION, OR WAS COMMITTED WITH PARTICULARLY LARGE QUANTITIES OF NARCOTIC DRUGS, OR OTHERWISE WAS PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS." IN ONE CASE SOME MONTHS AGO, AN INDIVIDUAL ARRESTED WITH 85 KILOS OF HASHISH

WAS SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR FIVE AND ONE HALF YEARS.

3. POLICE ACT VIGOROUSLY IN TRYING TO SUPPRESS HASHISH
TRAFFICKING BUT MAKE RELATIVELY LITTLE DELIBERATE EFFORT TO
APPREHEND USERS. POSSESSION FOR PERSONAL USE OFTEN
COMES TO LIGHT AS RESULT OF ARREST FOR OTHER OFFENCES.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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